

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention, and so as to facilitate proceedings in connection with the above-identified application. Specifically, Applicants have set forth the subject matter of each of claims 13, 14 and 15 in independent form, incorporating into each of claims 13, 14 and 15, subject matter previously recited in claims 12, 7 and 1.

In addition, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 4-12 and 16-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Initially, it is respectfully requested that the present amendments be entered, notwithstanding the Finality of the Office Action mailed May 12, 2009. In this regard, the indication by the Examiner in Item 8 on page 9 of the Office Action mailed May 12, 2009, that the subject matter of claims 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is noted. Applicants have followed this indication, amending claims 13-15 to set forth the subject matter of these claims in independent form. Accordingly, amendments to claims 13-15 are clearly appropriate; and, noting cancelling of the other claims in the application, that is, claims 1, 4-12 and 16-19, clearly materially limit issues remaining in connection with the above-identified application, presenting the application in condition for allowance.

In any event, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments, cancelling claims and complying with requirements of form in setting forth in independent form subject matter previously indicated as allowable, is appropriate under 37 CFR 1.116(b)(1).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have provided a basis for entry of the present amendments after Final rejection, such that entry of the present amendments is clearly appropriate notwithstanding Finality of the Office Action mailed May 12, 2009.

The new grounds of rejection set forth in the Office Action mailed May 12, 2009, in Items 6 and 7 on pages 4-8 thereof, are noted. Such grounds of rejection are moot in light of present amendments to the claims and in light of the indication by the Examiner in Item 8 on page 9 of the Office Action mailed May 12, 2009, that claims 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, entry of the present amendments, and reconsideration and allowance of all claims remaining in the above-identified application, are respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper be charged to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (case 396.46268X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP**

By /William I. Solomon/

William I. Solomon  
Registration No. 28,565

WIS/ksh  
1300 17<sup>th</sup> Street N., Suite 1800  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Tel: 703-312-6600  
Fax: 703-312-6666